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# Republican Policy Committee

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May 31, 1996

## Hiding Behind Children: The Liberal Establishment Pushes Its Agenda

On Saturday, June 1, 1996, the largest concentration of liberal advocacy groups since Earth Day will descend on the Washington Mall to defend Big Government and the status quo. Billed as the "Stand for Children," this event is certain to feature the same old demands for more government spending on the same old social programs, mismanaged by the same old Washington bureaucracy.

What definitely will not be discussed are Republican proposals that actually help children and their parents. Instead of demanding welfare reform that requires work and promotes families, those in attendance can be relied on to defend "welfare as we know it." Likewise, reforming our nation's disastrous foster care system, providing families with a \$500 per child tax credit, enacting a \$5,000 adoption tax credit, providing parents with real choice in their children's education, and balancing our nation's budget will not be on Saturday's agenda.

### Helping America's Children: Democrats "Stand" In the Way

#### **\$500 per Child Tax Credit**

- ▶ According to the National Taxpayers Union, prior to World War II, the effective tax rate on \$50,000 income bracket family was never more than four percent. Today, that family must pay the government nearly 24 percent of their combined income.
- ▶ The failure of the personal exemption to keep pace with inflation means that a family with four children pays about \$5,000 more in taxes in 1994 that it would have in 1948, in constant dollars.
- ▶ Republicans are committed to cutting the federal budget to enlarge the family budget. They realize strong families make strong societies.

#### **\$5,000 Adoption Tax Credit**

- ▶ In 1979, 598,000 babies were born out of wedlock; almost one in four was adopted. In 1991, of the 1,225,000 babies born out of wedlock, only one in 25 was adopted.

- ▶ According to the National Council for Adoption, the cost of adopting a child totals almost \$18,000. The cost of adopting foreign children ranges anywhere from \$12,740 to \$35,840. Everyone agrees that cost is one of the leading obstacles to placing needing children with loving mothers and fathers.
- ▶ Republicans believe that America must assist children and families by removing prohibitive costs and regulations. In short, returning to families more of their hard earned dollars will assist in uniting children with a loving mom and dad!

### **Foster Care Woes**

- ▶ According to the American Public Welfare Association "the population of children in substitute care [is] growing 33 times faster than the United States child population in general. During each of the past 10 years, more children have entered the system than exited. Every year, 15,000 children graduate from foster care by turning 18 with no permanent family."
- ▶ Republicans know that children want a loving mom and dad and that every day that a child is deprived of this loving relationship is one day too many.

### **Drugs**

- ▶ America is witnessing a dramatic rise in illegal drug use among its youth. This sharp reversal from the steady progress made against illegal drug use throughout the 1980s and early 1990s is the inescapable result of the Clinton Administration's wholesale retreat in the war against drugs. According to a report released in December 1995 by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, the official policy adopted by the Clinton Administration has "de-emphasized law enforcement and shifted away from interdiction, while promising dividends from treating hard-core drug users."
- ▶ According to the report, "the number of Americans using illicit drugs plunged from 24.7 million in 1979 to 11.4 million in 1992. The so-called 'casual' use of cocaine fell by 79 percent between 1985 and 1992, while monthly cocaine use fell 55 percent between 1988 and 1992 alone — from 2.9 million to 1.3 million users." Unfortunately, under the Clinton Administration, drug use has experienced a dramatic resurgence among our youth. *The number of 12-17 year-olds using marijuana increased from 1.6 million in 1992 to 2.9 million in 1994. Since 1992, there has been a 52 percent jump in the number of high-school seniors using drugs on a monthly basis.*
- ▶ Republicans have committed themselves to a five-point national strategy that will again ensure the proven results of the "Just-Say-No" 1980s:
  - Interdiction: *Stopping the Enemies' Attack*
  - International Efforts: *Eradicating the Enemies' Base*
  - Effective Enforcement: *Commit the Crime, Do the Time*
  - Prevention and Education: *Returning Virtue to Message*
  - Treatment: *Returning to Proper Balance*

## **Child Porn**

- ▶ According to "Enough is Enough!" a national anti-pornography group, there are more outlets for hard-core pornography in America than McDonald's restaurants.
- ▶ Rather than protecting children from sexual predators, the Clinton Administration's Justice Department actually filed a brief (*United States v. Knox*) with the Supreme Court, arguing for a weakened interpretation of the Child Protection Act as it pertained to child pornography. Republicans led the charge to condemn the Administration's actions and are united to changing Clinton's course of callous disregard.

## **Scholarships for Children in Need**

- ▶ Parents are the first and most important teachers of their children. They should have the right not only to participate in their child's education, but to choose for their children among the broadest array of educational choices, without regard to their income. Republicans are committed to helping families enjoy the same choice of schools that families with more resources already have. They know that funding families and children, rather than institutions, will ensure greater commitment toward our nation's learners.

[See attached APPENDIX entitled "*Federally Funded Organizations Endorsing Stand for Children.*"]

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## APPENDIX

[Prepared by the Heritage Foundation; May 31, 1996,  
"Stand for Children or Last Stand for Big Government?"]

### Federally Funded Organizations Endorsing Stand for Children

Advocates for Youth	Amount N/A
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity	\$6,800,000
American Academy of Pediatrics	\$1,100,000
American Association of Retired Persons	\$76,000,000
American Association of School Administrators	\$590,000
American Bar Association (co-sponsor)	\$2,200,000
American College of Physicians	\$198,000
AFL/CIO	\$10,700,000
AFSCME	\$148,000
American Federation of Teachers	\$143,000
American Medical Women's Association	\$150,000
American Nurses Association	\$965,000
American Psychiatric Association	\$1,924,000
American Psychological Association	\$1,062,000
American Public Health Association	\$173,000
American Rehabilitation Association	\$116,000
American Speech Language Hearing Association	\$380,000
ASPIRA Association Inc.	\$2,200,000
Association for Gerontology and Human Development in Historically Black Colleges and Universities	\$173,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America	\$1,100,000*
Camp Fire Boys and Girls	\$25,000
Child Welfare League of America	\$260,000
Children's Health Fund	\$374,000*
Children's Television Workshop	\$11,437,000
Cities Communities in Schools	\$2,600,000
Citizen Action	\$141,600
Coalition for the Homeless	\$447,000
Congress of National Black Churches	\$145,000
Congressional Black Caucus	\$150,000
Council of Chief State School Officers	\$1,353,000
Council of Great City Schools	\$200,000
Council of Jewish Federations	\$35,000,000**
Crossroads Programs Inc.	\$164,000
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.	\$624,000
Environmental Action	\$164,000
Families U.S.A.	\$250,000
Family Resource Coalition	\$399,100
Friends of the Earth	\$35,000

Gerontological Society of America	\$360,000
Girls Inc.	\$221,000
Habitat for Humanity International	\$1,425,000*
HandsNet	\$200,000***
I Have a Dream Foundation	\$710,000*
Institute for Educational Leadership	\$31,000
International Association of Machinists	\$1,770,000
International Brotherhood of Teamsters	\$3,540,000
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies	\$442,000
League of Women Voters of the United States	\$611,000
Magic Me	\$750,000*
National 4H Council	\$815,000
NAACP	\$970,000
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging	\$825,000
National Association of Community Health Centers	\$240,000
National Association of Counties	\$655,000
National Association of People with AIDS	\$142,000
National Association of State Boards of Education	\$2,521,000
National Caucus and Center on Black Aged Inc.	\$16,000,000
National Center for Family Literacy	\$601,000*
National Center on Women and Family Law Inc.	\$326,000
National Clearinghouse for Legal Services	\$200,000
National Community Education Association	\$800,000*
National Conference of Black Mayors	\$82,400
National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.	\$850,000
National Council of La Raza	\$602,000
National Council of Negro Women	\$744,000
National Council of Senior Citizens	\$72,000,000
National Council on Family Relations	\$2,250,000
National Council on Aging	\$38,200,000
National Easter Seal Society	\$2,080,000**
National Education Association	\$830,000
National Health and Human Service Employees Union 1199	\$1,520,000
National Hispanic Council on Aging	\$450,000
National Housing Institute	\$12,000
National Medical Association	\$782,000
National Native American AIDS Prevention Center	\$1,986,000
National Organization for Women	\$188,000
National Puerto Rican Coalition	\$52,000
National School Boards Association	\$394,000
National School Health Education Coalition	\$520,000
National Senior Citizens Law Center	\$200,000
National Urban League	\$4,787,000
Natural Resources Defense Council	\$82,000

OICs of Americas Inc.	\$922,000
Older Women's League	\$100,000
Planned Parenthood Federation of America	\$3,875,000
Points of Light Foundation	\$5,000,000
Progressive Life Center	\$694,000
Public Allies DC	\$716,000*
Public Education Fund Network	\$238,000
Public Private Ventures	\$682,000
Save the Children U.S.A.	\$41,500,000
Sentencing Project	\$125,000
Service Employees International Union	\$137,000
Southern Christian Leadership Conference	\$489,000
Spaulding for Children	\$1,100,000
Teach for America	\$2,000,000*
The Arc	\$837,000
Unitarian Universalist Association	\$10,000
United Cerebral Palsy Associations	\$8,200,000
Women's Action Alliance	\$730,000
Youth Build U.S.A.	\$1,510,000*
Youth Volunteer Corps of America	\$845,000*
YWCA of the U.S.A.	\$191,000

**TOTAL FEDERAL GRANTS**

**PER FISCAL YEAR (102 organizations)**

**\$392,468,000**

(Data are from FY 1993-1994, the most recent year available, unless otherwise indicated. In most cases, actual funding is higher, since funding for local affiliates is not included. No database for state or local government funds is available.)

- \* Indicates AmeriCorps funding, 1994-1995
- \*\* Figure includes local affiliates
- \*\*\* FY 1994-95